

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are active. The claims are restricted, with claims 1-2, in Group I, drawn to an organic electronic component and claims 3-18, in Group II, drawn to a single-step conversion process.

Applicants provisionally elect the Group I claims 1-2 with traverse.

The claims are amended herein. Amended claims 1-18 are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration.

The Action states that the inventions of Groups I and II of the as filed claims do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 in that they lack the same or corresponding special technical features. The so called common technical feature is asserted as "an organic functional layer with different properties." (underlining added)

This so called common technical feature as asserted in the Action and as claimed is stated as comprising "an organic functional layer" (underlining added) which depicts a single layer with different properties is believed not accurate.

The restricted as filed claims 1 and 3 are as follows:

1. An electronic organic component comprising at least two functional layers adjacent to one another, the first functional layer being produced from the same organic material as the second and adjacent functional layer but differing at least partly therefrom in its electrical physical properties (underlining added)

3. A method for the production of an organic electronic component, in which two different functional layers are produced in a single process step

by converting a part of a functional layer into another functional layer by
modification of the material by partial reaction (underlining added)

Thus the common technical feature is two functional layers comprising the same organic material, but having different electrical properties such that the two layers of the same material form two different functional layers.

The Action then proceeds to state that this common feature can not be a special feature as it is asserted to be shown in the prior art citing Brown US 5,629,530. The Action states that Brown shows an organic material comprised of at least two functional layers abutting each other produced from the same material, but having different conductivity and the layers can be produced by multiple step process (col. 6, lines 5-30).

The common technical feature of amended claim 1 (and claim 3 with similar terminology) of the respective Groups I and II is:

the first functional layer being produced from the same organic material as the second and adjacent functional layer and having the same chemical properties, but differing at least partly therefrom in its electrical physical properties (underlining added)

Brown is foreign to this structure. The so called two layers of Brown do not have the same chemical properties as claimed. This is supported in applicants' specification at page 3, lines 13-14, stating "There is no fundamental change in the chemical composition of the material." The chemical compositions are the same except possibly for doping with foreign atoms.

Brown layer 3 is the so called layer that is converted to two different layers. This layer 3 comprises a solid state mixture mounted on a Si slice (Col. 4, lines 48-67). A passivating layer 7 is built on the layer 3 as soon as layer 3 engages oxygen-atmosphere. col. 4, lines 58-61. The passivating layer 7 is chemically different from the layer 3 because it was reacted with and thus includes oxygen. Thus layer 3 can later react with oxygen, but layer 7 cannot since it already was so reacted, and thus layers 3 and 7 are chemically different as disclosed by Brown, but are not chemically the same as claimed.

The same applies to Figs. 4 and 6. In Fig. 4, the layers 3 and 7 are chemically different as in Fig. 2.

In Fig. 6, there are different layers 21-24 (col. 6, line 9). Layer 21 is a semi-metallically conducting layer of TTF/TCNQ with a donor-acceptor molecule molar ratio of 1:1 (col. 6, line 11-13). Layer 22 is a p-type semiconductor of TTF/TCNQ with a donor-acceptor molecule molar ratio of 200:1 (col. 6, line 17). Layer 23 is an n-type (col. 6, lines 22-24) which is of chemically different material TTF/TCNQ with a donor-acceptor molecule molar ratio of 1:200. A semi-metallic layer 24 is on layer 23 of a solid state mixture (col. 6, line 27-30), which is of chemically different material with the donor-acceptor molecule molar ratio between the donor and acceptor molecules being equal to one. Thus the different layers comprise different molecular compositions of different molar ratios. A gold layer 25 (lines 30-32) is on the layer 24. Thus there are no layers

wherein a layer of the same chemical composition is formed into a different layer with different electrical properties.

The layers 3 and 7, Fig. 2 and 4, and the layers of Fig. 6 comprising different molar ratios are not chemically the same with different electrical properties as claimed in both the Group I and Group II claims such that the restriction is moot and should be withdrawn.

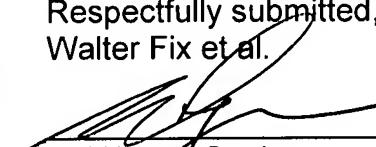
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